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THE WORLD'S BEST NEWS & FACTS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

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Making sense of the world

THE WEEK Junior

THE BEST MAGAZINE FOR CURIOUS KIDS

JFK

America remembers the life and death of the 35th President p12

DID YOU KNOW?

- John F. Kennedy was elected President in 1960.
- He was the youngest person ever elected to the office.
- He was killed 60 years ago, on November 22, 1963.

RECORD TURNOUT
In the US, 66% of eligible people voted in the 2020 Presidential election, which was the highest rate of voter turnout since 1900.

Voters cast ballots on November 7.

Senate announcement

Joe Manchin

US Senator Joe Manchin, a Democrat from West Virginia, said he won't seek reelection in 2024. This could shift the balance of power in the Senate, where Democrats currently hold a majority. West Virginia usually votes Republican. If Manchin's seat goes to a Republican, the party could take control of the Senate.

Results of US election are in

On Election Day, November 7, people across the US chose government officials and voted on a variety of local and statewide issues. Some of the races had historic outcomes.

What happened?

Because 2023 is an odd-numbered year, the President and most members of Congress (the branch of government that makes laws) were not on the ballot. But hundreds of state and local elections were held. Kentucky and Mississippi chose governors (top state leaders), and voters in 17 major cities chose mayors. Judges were elected at many levels, from municipal courts to state supreme courts. Many towns and cities held races for elected positions on city councils, school boards, fire department commissions, and other local government departments. Voter turnout was mostly low across the country, which is typical for elections that take place in odd-numbered years.

Andy Beshear

Which governors were chosen?

Two governors were reelected. Andy Beshear, the Democratic governor of Kentucky, won a second term with nearly 53% of the vote, beating his Republican opponent, Daniel Cameron. This outcome surprised many political experts because Republicans won every other race in the state. Mississippi also reelected its governor, Tate Reeves, a Republican. He defeated Brandon Presley, a Democrat, in the heavily Republican state. Reeves received nearly 52% of the vote.

Who else was elected?

Voters in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, elected the city's first female mayor, Cherelle Parker. In a special election in Rhode Island, Gabe Amo won a seat in the US House of Representatives. Amo, the son of immigrants from Liberia and Ghana, will be the state's first Black member of Congress. In a closely watched race in Virginia, Democrats gained a majority in the state legislature, winning 72 out of 140 seats. They won despite efforts by the state's Republican governor, Glenn Youngkin, to rally supporters against Democrats so his party would gain control of all parts of the state's government. In New York City, Yusef Salaam was elected to the city council. In 1990, Salaam was one of five teenagers wrongfully convicted of an assault on a jogger in New York City. Their sentences were overturned in 2002.

What statewide issues were decided?

This year, 41 statewide issues appeared on ballots in eight states—the most for an odd-numbered election year since 2007. In a widely watched contest, Ohio voters passed a measure securing a woman's right to end a pregnancy. More than 56% of voters said the right should be protected by the state's constitution (highest law). In Colorado, voters rejected a proposal to shift how people pay taxes. It would have provided lower property taxes for homeowners while reducing tax refunds for all taxpayers. In Maine, voters turned down an effort to replace the state's two largest electrical companies with a utility owned by consumers.

What will happen next?

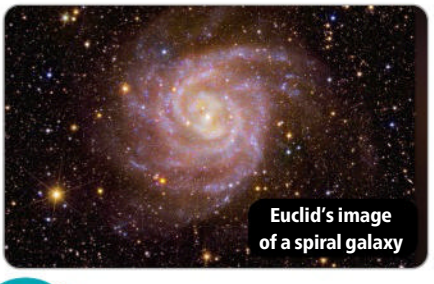
Winners will be sworn in and take office over the next few weeks. Many political experts believe the results of Election Day 2023 are an indicator of how people will vote in 2024, while others disagree. Next November, voters will choose a President, 33 out of 100 members of the US Senate, all 435 members of the House of Representatives, and governors in 11 states. Candidates for President have already begun campaigning, while people vying for other roles will start their campaigns in the coming weeks and months.

Space telescope sends images

A powerful new space telescope called Euclid sent its first images back to Earth, according to the European Space Agency (ESA), which runs the mission. The five pictures from the telescope depict a globular cluster (group of stars), a nebula (clouds of dust and gas), two nearby galaxies, and a large cluster of distant galaxies, some of which have never been seen before.

The ESA launched Euclid in July 2023. Its six-year mission is to create the most detailed 3D map of the universe to date, including billions of galaxies that are millions of light-years (the distance light travels in one Earth year) away. Euclid, which is 15 feet tall and 11 feet wide, is orbiting nearly one million miles above Earth. Using a wide-angle lens, it can capture more in an image than other telescopes can.

Scientists said humans have discovered only 5% of the universe and hope Euclid will help them learn about the rest. The telescope could also shed light on the evolution of galaxies, black holes, and more.



Euclid's image of a spiral galaxy

Tian Tian (left) and Mei Xiang

SNOW DAY
A video of giant pandas Mei Xiang and Tian Tian playing in the snow in 2021 has been viewed more than 22 million times.

Giant pandas relocated to China

The Smithsonian's National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute said goodbye to its beloved giant pandas—Tian Tian, Mei Xiang, and Xiao Qi Ji—on November 8. The pandas traveled from Washington, DC, where the zoo is located, to China. They landed safely the next day and were set to live in a nature preserve.

Giant pandas are native to China and first came to the US in 1972 as part of an agreement between the nations. For the last 50 years, the zoo has played an important role in the conservation of the species, which is at risk of dying out. About 1,864 giant pandas remain in the wild.

Mei Xiang, a 25-year-old female, and Tian Tian, a 26-year-old male, came to the zoo in 2000. Mei Xiang gave birth to four surviving cubs over the years. The first three were previously moved to China, where they are thriving, and the fourth, Xiao Qi Ji, was born in 2020. The young male, whose name means "little miracle" in Chinese, will enter a breeding program in China.

The pandas traveled in specially built crates that zoo staff helped them get comfortable with in advance. They flew on a FedEx plane nicknamed "The FedEx Panda Express," along with 220 pounds of bamboo and other food. Two zookeepers and one veterinarian accompanied them and spent a few days helping them adjust to their new home.

The pandas' departure was emotional for many people. "Millions have connected with and grown up loving Mei Xiang, Tian Tian, and their cubs," said Brandie Smith, the zoo's director. "Although this farewell is bittersweet, we must celebrate these bears and their impact on fans and on our understanding, care, and conservation of their species."

IT'S AN AMAZING WEEK FOR...

A NOODLE MAKEOVER

For the first time in 50 years, Cup Noodles are getting a new look. In the US, the noodles have come in a foam cup since 1973, but starting in 2024, they will be in an environmentally friendly paper cup without plastic packaging. With the new cup, people can also microwave their noodles rather than pour boiling water on them.

The new packaging

Shohei Ohtani

A MAJOR LEAGUE DONATION

Baseball star Shohei Ohtani will donate 60,000 baseball gloves to children in Japan, where he is from. Ohtani, who has spent the last six seasons with the Los Angeles Angels, said, "I'll be looking forward to sharing the field one day with someone who grew up using this glove!"

HONORING VETERANS

The US observed Veterans Day in honor of the women and men who have served in the military. People showed their thanks at parades and ceremonies around the country. "We owe them a debt we can never fully repay," President Joe Biden said at a ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia.

A Veterans Day parade

ON THE COVER: GETTY IMAGES (3); NETFLIX; ON THIS PAGE: GETTY IMAGES (4); ESA/EUCLID/EUCLID CONSORTIUM/NASA, IMAGE PROCESSING BY J.-C. CUILLANDRE (CEA PARIS-SACLAY), G. ANSELMI; NISSIN FOODS; ON LEFT PAGE: GETTY IMAGES (3)

WOW! The SAG-AFTRA union represents about 160,000 actors, program hosts, voiceover artists, and other film and TV professionals.

People protesting outside Netflix in California

Emmy Awards rescheduled

The 75th Primetime Emmy Awards, honoring top TV shows, will take place on January 15. The event is typically held in September but was rescheduled due to the strikes. January will be a busy month for TV and film awards, with the Golden Globes on January 7 and the Critics Choice Awards on January 14.

Hollywood actors' strike settled

On November 9, actors for TV shows and movies ended their strike (refusal to work as a form of protest). The union representing them (the Screen Actors Guild–American Federation of Television and Radio Artists, or SAG-AFTRA) reached an agreement with the film and TV companies who hire them (the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers, or AMPTP). The strike lasted 118 days, the longest in Hollywood history.

What happened?

Of the SAG-AFTRA board members, 86% voted in favor of the three-year contract offered by AMPTP. Members of the Writers Guild of America (WGA), a union of writers for TV shows and movies, also had been on strike this year. That strike ended on September 27, when WGA reached an agreement with AMPTP. With actors and writers able to work again, the $134 billion industry can return to creating films and TV shows.

What were the terms of the deal?

SAG-AFTRA, which had been protesting low pay and other issues, said the new contract is valued at more than $1 billion. Actors will get an immediate pay increase of 7%, followed by additional raises in 2024 and 2025. Studios will pay performers for any future viewings of their shows on streaming services, and additional funds will be paid to actors who have to move from their home to appear in a TV series. Studios that want to use artificial intelligence (AI) must first get an actor's approval to create a digital replica of their likeness, voice, or performance. If AI is used, actors will be paid the same as if they had appeared in person.

How did people react?

Fran Drescher, an actor who is the SAG-AFTRA president, was jubilant, thanking union members for "holding out for this historic deal" and thanking the AMPTP for listening to the actors. In a statement, Hollywood studio officials said they looked forward to resuming the work of telling great stories. Some industry experts noted that the cost of making a show could increase by 10%, which could force studios to produce fewer shows.

What will happen next?

Actors and writers can return to work on the 176 shows and films that had been put on hold. Shows that had been planned to be released this year may be delayed until next year. The network TV season is expected to return to its usual lineup of shows in spring 2024 but with fewer episodes.

WORD OF THE WEEK

TEST

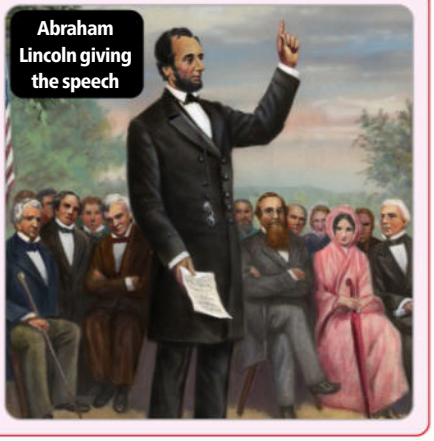
A test is an examination that measures an item's quality or a student's performance. It was first used in English in medieval times, when a "test" was a small container used for checking the quality of precious metals, such as gold or silver. The word comes from the Latin *testum*, meaning "earthenware pot."

THE WEEK IN HISTORY

November 19, 1863

Lincoln delivers Gettysburg Address

On November 19, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln gave a speech in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, where a Civil War battle had been fought four months earlier. He described a "government of the people, by the people, for the people." Although his oration, which came to be known as the Gettysburg Address, was only 272 words long, it is considered one of the most important speeches in US history.



Abraham Lincoln giving the speech

The current building

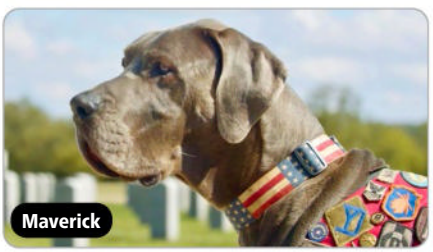
FBI to get new headquarters

The Biden administration has chosen a location in Maryland, about 13 miles from Washington, DC, for the new headquarters of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI, the nation's top law enforcement agency). The current building, in Washington, DC, is in disrepair. Maryland officials applauded the decision, but Virginia leaders were unhappy because they wanted the building in their state. The headquarters could take years to build.

Tracy Chapman

Historic win at music awards

Tracy Chapman won Song of the Year for "Fast Car" at the 2023 Country Music Association Awards on November 8. Chapman is the first Black songwriter to win the award. She released the song in 1988, but earlier this year, country singer Luke Combs released a cover version of the song that reignited its popularity. "It's truly an honor for my song to be newly recognized after 35 years," Chapman said.


Maverick

Most heroic dog in US chosen

Maverick, a 150-pound Great Dane, was named the winner of the 13th annual American Humane Hero Dog Awards, a nationwide competition among hundreds of canines. Maverick was selected for his work as a therapy dog, comforting members of the military and their families. Maverick's handler, Kelly Brownfield, said his go-to move is placing his paw on the person he is helping.

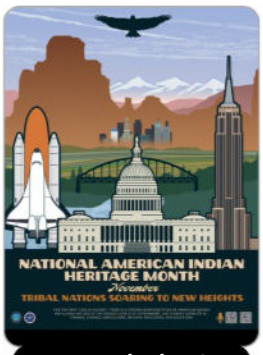
A Native American dancer

DID YOU KNOW?
The effort to establish a time to honor Native Americans began in 1916 in New York.

Native American Heritage Month celebrated

Throughout November, the US is observing National Native American Heritage Month. The month celebrates the accomplishments and contributions of Native and Indigenous peoples, whose ancestors were the first to inhabit America.

The federal government first declared November to be National American Indian Heritage Month in 1990. Since 1994, it has been observed every year. This year, President Joe Biden said the US government is "working in partnership with Tribal Nations to advance prosperity, dignity, and safety for all Native peoples." He encouraged Americans to celebrate Native American Heritage Day on November 24.



A poster by the US Department of Defense

Native Americans have a history that dates back thousands of years and includes contributions to American art, music, food, and language and to agriculture, science, technology, and other industries. The US Census Bureau announced that, for the first time in US history, Native Americans are among the nation's fastest-growing ethnic groups. Since 2010, the number of people who identify as Native American and Alaska Native has nearly doubled, to 9.7 million.

Among the numerous events that have already been held to celebrate the month, the University of Oklahoma hosted a poetry reading by Joy Harjo. She is a member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and was the first Native American to serve as US Poet Laureate, from 2019–2022.

As the month continues, the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, is giving workshops about toys that Wampanoag people made for their children. The center is also offering online programs, including one about how Indigenous peoples influenced the US Constitution, at tinyurl.com/TWJUS-ConstitutionCenter. On November 24, the National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, DC, will host performances by Native American dancers and singers.

THE WEEK'S SILLIEST HEADLINE

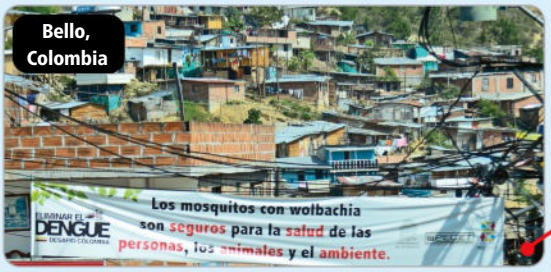
"Coyote found napping on San Francisco resident's patio couch" *UPI*

CONNAR L'ECUYER/NPS PHOTO; DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE; GETTY IMAGES (3); COURTESY OF KELLY BROWNFIELD/AMERICAN HUMANE; ON LEFT PAGE: GETTY IMAGES (3); AP

The march in Paris

Western Europe
Thousands take to streets in protest

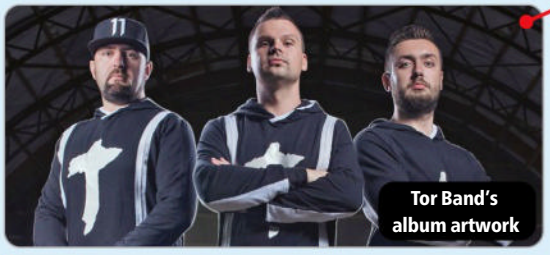
On November 12, more than 100,000 people marched in Paris, France, to protest antisemitism (prejudice against Jews). The protest was called because antisemitism has risen sharply since the war between Israel and Gaza started on October 7. The day before the Paris protest, about 300,000 people took part in a pro-Palestinian march in London, England. Demonstrators called for a ceasefire in Gaza, where the war is taking place.



Bello, Colombia

Bello and Itagüí, Colombia
Infection rate falls in cities

Cases of dengue (pronounced den-gee), a viral infection that is passed from mosquitoes to people, have fallen by 95% and 97% in two Colombian cities, Bello and Itagüí. The dramatic decline is attributed to efforts by the World Mosquito Program (WMP). To combat the infection, WMP released mosquitoes carrying *Wolbachia*, a type of bacteria that prevents mosquitoes from spreading diseases such as dengue.


Tor Band's album artwork

Belarus
Band members sentenced to jail

Three members of the music group Tor Band were sentenced to prison on charges that included insulting the president. The band's music became associated with protests against President Alexander Lukashenko after a 2020 election. Lukashenko won, but many said the results were fraudulent, prompting a massive outcry. Human rights groups criticized the prison sentences.

Portugal
Government in disarray

Prime Minister Antonio Costa unexpectedly stepped down on November 7 amid charges of government corruption (using a position of power for personal or political gain). President Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa announced that parliament (similar to Congress) would be disbanded and an election for a new government held on March 10.

Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa

Kenya
Nation declares tree-planting holiday

The Kenyan government declared November 13 to be the first public tree-planting holiday. On this day, people were encouraged to plant at least two trees to help reach a goal of planting 100 million trees across the country. Local forest agencies gave out free seedlings (young trees), which were then planted on public land with the help of an app that shows where different types of trees grow best.

Young people plant trees in Nairobi.

GETTY IMAGES (5); GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS; NATURE PICTURE LIBRARY; ALAMY (2); APPLE

Around the world

Part of the Prado exhibit

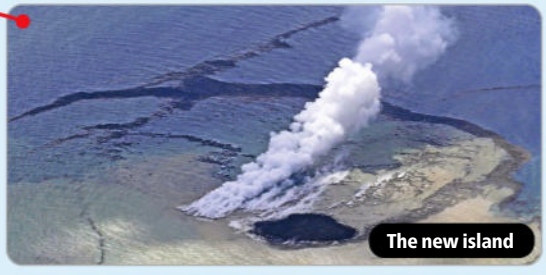
Madrid, Spain
Art displayed in reverse

The Prado museum is showing another side of its most famous artwork: *Las Meninas* by Diego Velázquez. A lifesize recreation of the back of the painting is part of a larger exhibit titled *On the Reverse*, which shows more than 100 works from the back. The Prado said the show's goal is for visitors to "see paintings as complete objects."

Workers protest in Dhaka.

Dhaka, Bangladesh
Workers demand better pay

On November 7, the government in Bangladesh announced that factory workers who make clothing will receive a pay increase. The decision came after thousands of workers protested for better wages. Workers said the pay raise, which will go into effect on December 1, is not sufficient because the costs of food and energy are rising. Factory owners said they can't afford to pay any more.


The new island

Ogasawara Islands, Japan
Volcanic eruption creates new island

An underwater volcano that began erupting on October 21 has created a new island in the Pacific Ocean near Japan. Ash and rock shot upward before settling on the ocean floor. The debris piled up until it could be seen over the waves, and the new island reached as high as 66 feet above water. The island is now shrinking, and experts are analyzing its chances of survival. Undersea volcanoes have formed islands in the area before.

Laura Enever with her record

Narrabeen, Australia
Surfer achieves world record

At a ceremony on November 9, Australian surfer Laura Enever was officially recognized by Guinness World Records for riding the largest wave ever paddled into by a woman. The wave, which Enever surfed in January in Oahu, Hawaii, was about 43.6 feet tall. She broke a record set eight years ago by surfer Andrea Moller. Enever hopes to inspire more girls to start surfing.

Indonesia
Researchers rediscover rare mammal

More than 60 years since it was last spotted in 1961, scientists have rediscovered a species of mammal they thought was extinct (no longer existing). Attenborough's long-beaked echidna, named after British naturalist David Attenborough, was caught on a trail camera set up by researchers from Oxford University in the UK. The spiky animal appeared on the last day of their expedition on Indonesia's Cyclops Mountains.

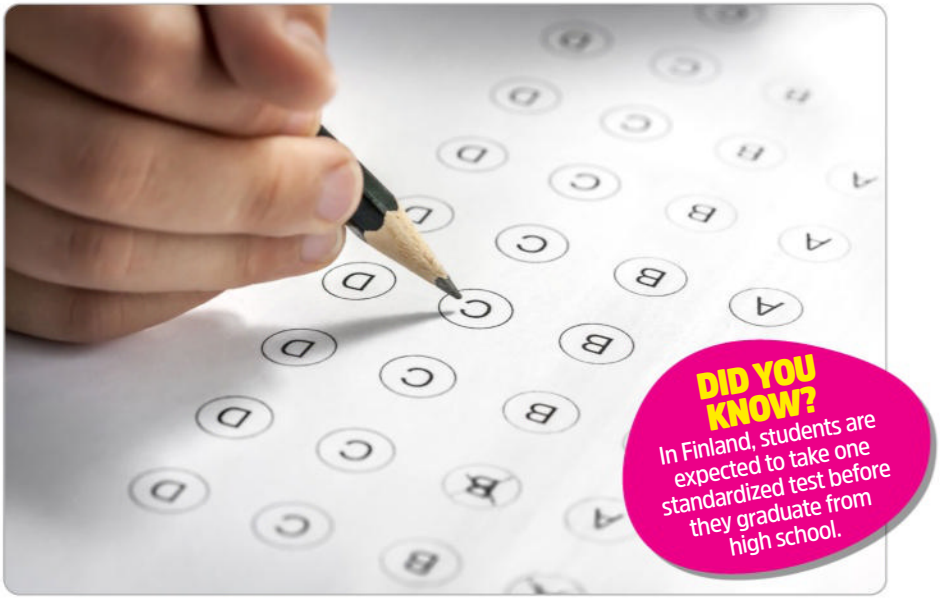
A long-beaked echidna

Should we get rid of timed tests?

Exams help teachers see what kids know, but some say it's time to stop the clock.

What you need to know

- **In the US, students start taking tests in class as early as elementary school.**
- **From third through eighth grade, public school students are required by state and federal governments to take annual standardized tests in reading and math.**
- **One study found that US students take an average of 112 standardized tests between pre-K and 12th grade.**
- **Most tests have a time limit, though students with learning issues are often given additional time.**



DID YOU KNOW?
In Finland, students are expected to take one standardized test before they graduate from high school.

Students in the US are regularly tested on their knowledge of class material, from pop quizzes to midterms, finals, and standardized tests. Traditionally, educators have put time limits on tests. This is because they believe it's fair to give most students the same amount of time, and they also think students who really know the material should be able to answer all the questions during that time. Studies have shown, however, that the ability to take a test quickly doesn't reflect a student's intelligence or knowledge of the material. Timed tests simply favor students who can think under pressure. What do you think? Should we get rid of timed tests?

Yes—a ticking clock is unfair

Time limits on tests give an advantage to students who can think quickly, be decisive, and stay calm. That has nothing to do with how much they know or how much they've studied. Many students, including people with learning issues, need more time to focus their thoughts. They can get stressed and anxious and even have trouble sleeping the night before a test, which will affect their performance. Not everyone can convey their ideas or knowledge while the clock is ticking. Studies show that when students have time to focus on the questions, they give more thoughtful answers and actually remember the material better.

No—it's important to stay on track

Giving students the same test with the same time limit is a fair way to assess and compare their knowledge and abilities. Yes, people with specific needs should get more time, but not everyone. If all students could take as long as they want to finish a test, they wouldn't learn how to pace themselves or allocate the right amount of time for each question. Time limits encourage students to trust what they know, practice decision-making skills, and move on, which builds confidence. And learning to work efficiently and quickly is more in line with life in the real world, including the workplace.

YES Three reasons why we should get rid of timed tests

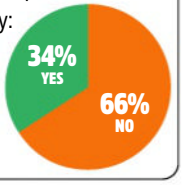
1. **Tests with time limits don't accurately reflect what students know. They just reward quick thinkers.**
2. **Many students, including those with learning issues, get stressed and can't do their best when the clock is ticking.**
3. **Without time pressure, students give better answers and ultimately learn more.**

NO Three reasons why we should not get rid of timed tests

1. **Timed tests are fair and let teachers see how well students know the material when compared with their peers.**
2. **When the clock is ticking on a test, students learn how to manage their time efficiently and trust themselves.**
3. **Timed tests prepare students for the real world and real jobs.**

LAST WEEK'S POLL

Last week, we asked if casual dressing has gone too far. Your votes show you prefer comfort over formality: Two thirds of you said no, while the rest said yes.



What do you think?

Now that you've read a bit more about this issue, visit kids.theweekjunior.com/polls so you can vote in our debate. Vote YES if you think we should get rid of timed tests or NO if you don't. We'll publish the results next week.

The goal of the big debate is to present two sides of an issue fairly in order to stimulate discussion and allow our readers to make up their minds. The views on this page do not reflect those of *The Week Junior*, and the page is not funded by third parties.

GETTY IMAGES

Playing with heart

The pianist Jahari Stampley has won a top award in jazz music.

Jahari Stampley, age 24, grew up in Chicago, Illinois, surrounded by jazz music. Now he's become a jazz star in his own right, as the first-place winner of the 2023 Herbie Hancock Institute of Jazz International Piano Competition, a contest that recognizes promising young jazz musicians each year.

Although Stampley's mother, D'Erania Stampley, is an accomplished jazz musician, he said she didn't pressure him to pursue the piano. In fact, he didn't start playing piano until age 14, and he learned by watching the finger movements of piano player P. Miller on YouTube. Stampley went on to graduate from the Manhattan School of Music and has since toured with the jazz icon Stanley Clarke. His first album, *Still Listening*, was released in September.

WOW! Jahari Stampley designed an app called Piano Chronicles, which combines gaming and practicing the piano.

"I've always been so emotionally connected to music," Stampley told *The Week Junior*. He described music as his outlet and said it's "changed my life."

For the Herbie Hancock competition, Stampley first submitted piano recordings to the judges. He was then selected to perform in person at the competition's semifinal. After that, he advanced to the final round, where he played two piano pieces, one by John Hicks, titled "After the Morning," and a piece he wrote himself, "Prelude Entrance."

"I kind of tried to touch on all the different genres and eras," Stampley said.

In his conversation with *The Week Junior,* he offered advice for young people who are interested in music. "Give it your all," he said. "At the end of the day...do what you feel is right."

Jahari Stampley

Artist has new show

Annie Leibovitz, a famous portrait photographer in the US, has opened an exhibit of about 300 of her works at the Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art in Arkansas. *Annie Leibovitz at Work* features photos of people that Leibovitz, age 74, previously took for magazines, such as *Rolling Stone*, along with new images she captured, including one of Supreme Court Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson. "When I say I want to photograph someone, what it really means is that I'd like to know them," Leibovitz said of her work.

Annie Leibovitz

Jean Wright

Dream job at NASA

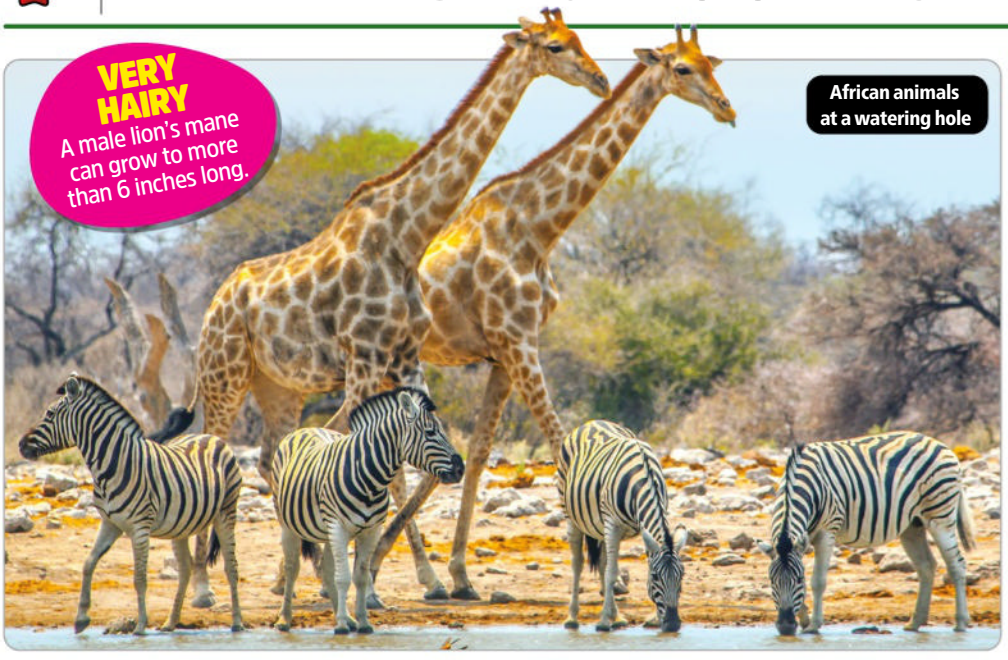
From 2005 to 2011, Jean Wright worked for NASA, the US space agency, sewing essential thermal coverings and other soft goods onto the agency's space shuttles. Now her experience is the subject of the new children's book *Sew Sister: The Untold Story of Jean Wright and NASA's Seamstresses*, written and illustrated by Elise Matich. Wright, now age 67, was hired to sew for NASA at age 49. She said it was a dream come true to combine her childhood love of space with her skills as a seamstress, and she encourages young people to pursue their ambitions and not give up.

OVERHEARD

"I think we all hope that we can have an impact on young people."

Patrick Mahomes, quarterback for the NFL's Kansas City Chiefs, on his hopes for shaping the next generation of athletes

GETTY IMAGES (3); KEN KREMER



African animals at a watering hole

Hope for rhinos

In the first six months of 2023, the number of rhinos poached (killed) by humans in South Africa decreased. Authorities have increased their efforts to protect the animals by providing more support to park rangers. Several sanctuaries throughout South Africa also contribute by rescuing at-risk rhinos.

White rhinos

Animals learn to fear humans

You might imagine that the scariest sound in the African savanna is the mighty roar of a lion. However, a new study has found that wild mammals actually find the sound of human voices scarier than any noise made by a big cat.

The research was done by scientists at the Greater Kruger National Park in South Africa, where about 1,600 lions live. The team set up speakers and cameras near 21 watering holes around the park between June and August.

Lions aren't as scary as humans.

The park becomes very dry at that time of year. Animals have a need to go to the watering holes because most other sources of fresh water have dried up. This makes the watering holes a popular hunting spot for both lions and poachers (people who hunt animals illegally). Poachers often target rhinos and elephants because they can sell their horns or tusks for large sums of money.

During the experiment, the researchers played different sounds. These included lions snarling and growling and humans speaking calmly in local languages. The animals at the watering hole included elephants, giraffes, rhinos, and warthogs. The study found that the animals were twice as likely to run away from a human voice as a lion sound. Animals also abandoned the watering holes 40% faster when they heard human noises.

The results suggest that animals in the park have become afraid of people, whom they have learned might be poachers and therefore dangerous. This could be a problem for national parks and areas that depend on making money from tourists who come to watch the animals, because visitors might scare the animals away.

The findings could be a positive development for wildlife conservation, however. Endangered species, such as the Southern white rhino, could be protected with the use of recordings of human voices—the sounds could keep them away from areas that are known to be popular with poachers.

PLACE OF THE WEEK

Atchafalaya Basin, Louisiana

At nearly 140 miles long, the Atchafalaya Basin is the largest river swamp in the US. A basin is an area of land that dips like a bowl and where water collects. Towering cypress trees more than 100 years old stand in the water, creating what locals call "a river of trees." The Atchafalaya also contains many bayous and backwater lakes, which are home to more than 65 species of reptiles, including snapping turtles, snakes, and alligators. Black bears, beavers, muskrats, raccoons, and foxes can also be found wandering the woods, and ibises wade in the water.

Ibises in the basin

WOW! A crowing rooster can reach more than 130 decibels in volume—louder than a police siren.

A rooster looks at a mirror.

Roosters recognize themselves

It might be time to stop calling chickens "bird brains." Scientists had previously used mirrors to confirm that animals with large brains, such as humans and elephants, show self-awareness. Now a study has revealed that despite having smaller brains, chickens can also recognize their own reflections.

When a rooster (male chicken) senses danger from a predator, such as a hawk, it usually crows loudly to warn other chickens nearby. If the bird is alone, however, it stays silent to avoid being spotted.

Researchers in Germany put a mirror in a rooster enclosure and projected the image of a hawk flying overhead to see how the birds would respond. When a fellow bird was in sight, most roosters would cry out a warning about the hawk. But if the rooster saw only its own reflection, it stayed quiet.

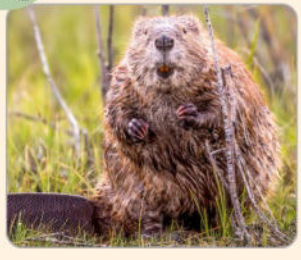
This suggests that roosters are self-aware—they knew they were seeing themselves in the mirror and not another bird. "They are way smarter than you think," lead researcher Sonja Hillemacher told *The New York Times*.

Animal of the week: Leatherback sea turtle

Leatherback sea turtles survive the salty ocean by "crying," according to the new book *The Blue Machine: How the Ocean Works*. Organs in their bodies remove salt, pushing it out through their tear ducts in about two gallons of tears per hour.

- **LIFE SPAN:** 50 years or more
- **HABITAT:** The Atlantic, Pacific, and Indian Oceans
- **DIET:** Jellyfish, seaweed, and crustaceans
- **SIZE:** Up to 6.5 feet long and 2,000 pounds
- **FUN FACT:** Some of these champion swimmers are able to swim more than 10,000 miles a year.

Good week / Bad week



Beavers

Beavers have been brought back to London, England, for the first time in more than 400 years. Long ago, the rodents were hunted to extinction. Now authorities hope they will benefit wetlands and create habitats for more wildlife.

Mountain chicken frogs

A study found that mountain chicken frogs in Dominica are in danger of extinction. Hundreds of thousands of the frogs, which reportedly taste like chicken, once lived on the island. They became a local delicacy, and now only 21 frogs remain.

Ask an expert: "How often are wolf pups born?" Yuktha, 10, Texas

Kerry Nicholson
Wildlife biologist, Alaska Department of Fish and Game

A female wolf becomes ready to breed once a year, usually giving birth to between four and seven pups in May or early June. Adults travel as far as 20 miles to find food for the pups. The babies are moved away from the den in the summer, and by winter they can hunt with adult pack members.

A gray wolf cub

Do you have a question for an animal expert? Send it to *hello@theweekjunior.com*. Find out more about the Alaska Department of Fish and Game at adfg.alaska.gov.

SONJA HILLEMACHER; GETTY IMAGES (4); ON LEFT PAGE: GETTY IMAGES (5)

The life and legacy of

The nation is observing the 60th anniversary of an American tragedy.

John Fitzgerald Kennedy, often referred to as JFK, was America's 35th President, serving from January 1961 until his death in November 1963.

The Kennedys

His early life and career

On May 29, 1917, Kennedy was born into an Irish Catholic family in Brookline, Massachusetts. Growing up, he was one of nine children. He attended boarding school and Harvard College, then enlisted in the Navy. For his heroic actions in World War II (1939–1945), he earned the Navy and Marine Corps Medal. After the war, JFK entered politics, winning a seat in the US House of Representatives in 1946 and the US Senate in 1952. He married Jacqueline (Jackie) Bouvier in 1953 and set his sights on the Presidency, which he called "the most powerful office in the Free World."

With his wife and children

A historic election

Kennedy ran for President in 1960 at the age of 43, defeating Richard Nixon to become the youngest person and the first Catholic elected to the office. Kennedy, a father to two young children, Caroline and John Jr., was sworn in on January 20, 1961. His inaugural address included one of his most famous quotes: "Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country." As President, he created the Peace Corps, set a goal to put a US astronaut on the Moon by the end of the decade, and supported civil rights.

A 1960 campaign button

MAKING HISTORY
In 1960, John F. Kennedy and Richard Nixon became the first candidates for President to appear in a televised debate.

INAUGURAL TRADITION
The tradition of an inaugural poet began with President Kennedy, who asked poet Robert Frost to recite "The Gift Outright" on Inauguration Day in 1961.

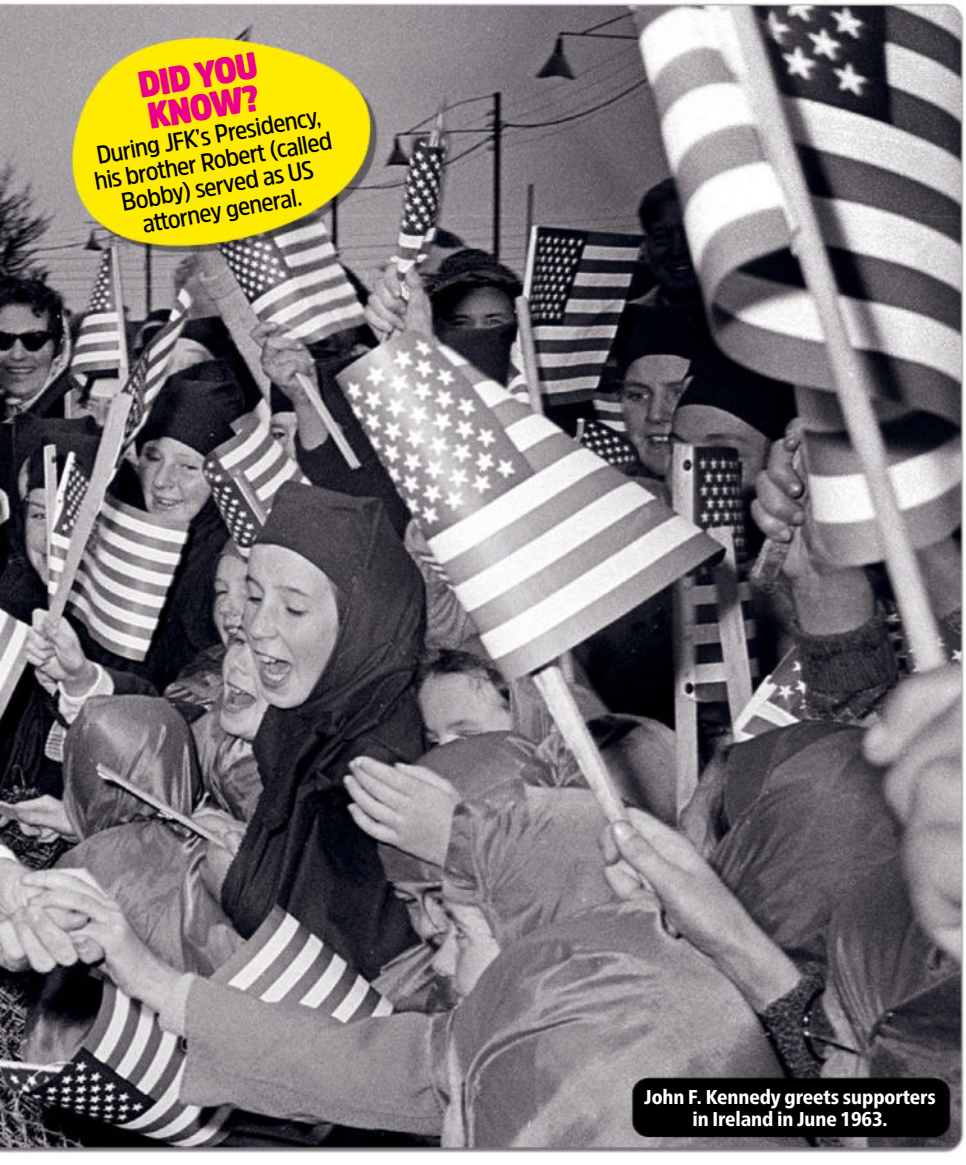
Kennedy Space Center

Named for a President

Numerous sites throughout the US have been named for John F. Kennedy. Five days after his death, NASA renamed its Launch Operations Center in Florida the Kennedy Space Center. The following month, New York International Airport, known as Idlewild, was renamed the John F. Kennedy International Airport. The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts opened in Washington, DC, in 1971. These buildings and many more still bear his name.

ALAMY (6); GETTY IMAGES (2); SHUTTERSTOCK

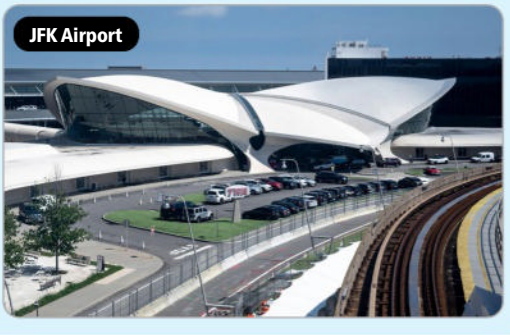
a US President



DID YOU KNOW?
During JFK's Presidency, his brother Robert (called Bobby) served as US attorney general.

John F. Kennedy greets supporters in Ireland in June 1963.

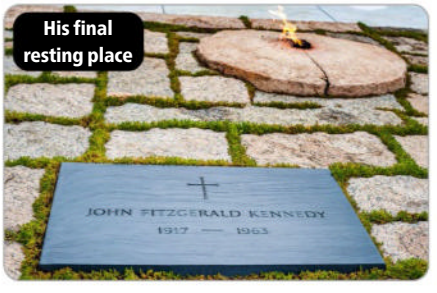
The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts



JFK Airport

A tragic day

Tragedy struck in Dallas, Texas, on November 22, 1963. After the President and First Lady arrived in the city for a luncheon, they rode in a convertible as part of a parade of cars through downtown Dallas. Gunshots were fired at about 12:30 pm, hitting the President. He was rushed to a hospital and pronounced dead at 1:00 pm. At 2:38 pm, aboard Air Force One (the US President's airplane), Vice President Lyndon Johnson was sworn in as the 36th President with Jackie standing beside him. That same day, a man named Lee Harvey Oswald was arrested for the assassination (killing someone in a surprise attack for political reasons). Two days after that, Jack Ruby shot and killed Oswald on live TV as he was being transferred to a county jail.



A lasting impact

Kennedy's shocking death caused an outpouring of grief throughout the world. His body was taken to the US Capitol to lie in state, and about 250,000 people walked by his casket to pay their respects. His funeral on November 25 was televised to more than 300 million people. Kennedy is buried at Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia, where an eternal flame, first lit by Jackie, still burns in his memory. The US fulfilled Kennedy's goal of putting a man on the Moon in 1969, and more than 240,000 Americans have served in the Peace Corps. Polls show that the Kennedy Presidency continues to be held in high regard. His era is often referred to as "Camelot," a reference to JFK's favorite Broadway musical and a mythical time that held great promise before being cut short.

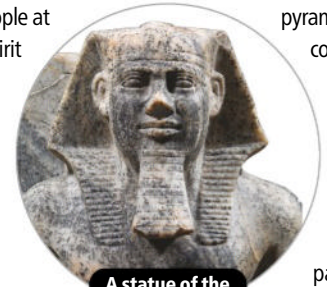
DID YOU KNOW?
There are more than 100 ancient pyramids in Egypt, and 10,000 to 50,000 workers were required to build each one.

The Temple of Sahure in Egypt

Hidden rooms found in pyramid

Scientists discovered concealed chambers in an Egyptian pyramid using a special scanning technique that can "see" through solid rock. The majestic structure was built for Sahure, a pharaoh (king) who ruled about 4,400 years ago.

Ancient Egyptians built pyramids as burial places for pharaohs. Pyramids often contained treasures because people at the time believed a pharaoh's spirit would live on and they would need their possessions in the afterlife. In the tomb of King Tutankhamun, for example, experts found beds, chariots, musical instruments, thrones, and even a board game.



A statue of the Pharaoh Sahure

In the 1800s, an expert on ancient Egypt named John Shae Perring explored the Pyramid of Sahure, which was built between 2600 and 2500 BCE. Perring found a passage blocked with fallen rocks and suspected there were hidden rooms to be discovered beyond it.

Recently, experts working to conserve and restore the pyramid were able to prove Perring's theory. They cleared away fallen rocks and repaired the pyramid to keep it from collapsing. They also used a technique called LiDAR, which bounces lasers off surfaces and counts how long it takes the light to come back. That data is used to create a virtual 3D map of things that we can't see.

With this data, the research team, led by Mohamed Ismail Khaled from Julius-Maximilians-Universität in Germany, drew up a map of the complex passages and rooms inside the pyramid. They were also able to confirm the existence of the area beyond the passage. Khaled said there were eight hidden rooms, which were most likely storage chambers for objects belonging to the pharaoh.

The Pyramid of Sahure is part of Abusir, an area with 19 pyramids and several temples (places of worship). Over the centuries, earthquakes and weather conditions, like wind, have caused some of the buildings to collapse.

The hidden chambers had suffered damage to their ceilings and floors, but they will help experts learn more about the pyramid's construction and building techniques of the time. They will also provide a window into the historical importance of Sahure, whose reign is known to have been peaceful and prosperous.

Reading an ancient scroll

The scroll (above) and one of the scientists

Nearly 2,000 years ago, the volcano Mount Vesuvius destroyed the Italian town of Herculaneum. Hundreds of scrolls (rolls of material that were written on) in a library were badly burned but survived.

Now experts have figured out a word on one of the scrolls using artificial intelligence (AI, when a computer learns and performs tasks that usually require human intelligence). Scientists took 3D x-ray images that let them see inside the scrolls. They then used AI that had been trained to detect subtle differences made on the material by the original ink. The newly discovered word is in ancient Greek and means "purple." Scientists have also identified letters and hope to reveal more words soon.

Mice can survive harsh mountain environment

New research shows that leaf-eared mice living at the top of the Andean Mountains made their way there on purpose, despite below-freezing temperatures, harsh winds, and low oxygen levels.

Experts have known for years that the mice live in extreme conditions at the top of the South American mountains. But they assumed the animals were carried there by Inca people who trekked to the peaks in the 1200s to 1500s.

A peak of the Andes

Jay Storz, a scientist at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, led the research. He and his team found the frozen bodies of 13 mice in the region. They examined them and found that the animals died long after the end of the Incan Empire, so they couldn't have been brought there by Incas. The team also studied the mice's DNA (chemical that carries all the information about a living thing) and found a mix of male and female mice, as well as some that were related to one another. This indicated that they were a community of mice in a shared habitat, rather than mice who arrived separately.

Storz has been studying the mice for a long time. In 2020, he found a live leaf-eared mouse at the 22,000-foot-high peak of the Llullaillaco volcano in the Andes. It was the first mammal found alive at such a high altitude. He and his team will continue studying how the mice survive in a place so remote it "feels like outer space," Storz said.

A living leaf-eared mouse found at the top of a volcano

FUN FACT
The Llullaillaco volcano in the Andes Mountains in South America is the world's second-tallest active volcano.

There are many methods for cooking pasta.

The energy-saving way to cook pasta

Scientists in the UK found the least expensive way to cook pasta, based on the energy it takes to cook. A physics professor and two students calculated the basic cost of cooking pasta at 10 cents per 3-ounce portion when using the traditional method of heating water, adding pasta, and boiling it for about 10 minutes.

Next the team calculated the cost of alternate methods. These included turning off the heat halfway through and letting the pasta finish cooking in hot water, starting the pasta in cold water and bringing it to a boil, and using less water. Costs ranged from 2 to 7 cents per portion.

The cheapest method involved presoaking the pasta in water for about two hours, then briefly heating it in water or sauce, at a cost of about one cent per portion. The team said that could make a big difference in the US, where 6 billion pounds of pasta is cooked every year, at an energy cost of about $3 billion.

AMAZING INVENTION

A work chair for maximum comfort

A new desk chair lets users sit, stand, lean, and even "go flamingo" — half sitting, half standing, like the bird that famously stands on one leg. Movably Pro was designed to increase movement, comfort, and productivity.

The chair's inventor got the idea after he was injured in a bike accident and couldn't find a comfortable seat to suit his needs. Movably Pro has seven positions and includes an adjustable footrest, back support, and anti-fatigue floor mat. An app reminds users to change positions every few minutes.

The Movably Pro

MARCIAL QUIROGA-CARMONA; JAY STORZ; GETTY IMAGES; MOVABLY INC.; ON LEFT PAGE: GETTY IMAGES (2); ALAMY

Photos of the week

Round and round
This overhead shot shows farmers picking leaves in a tea garden in China.

Take a seat
A falcon perches on a trainer's wrist in Qatar.

GETTY IMAGES (6)

Photos of the week

Seeing green
Ivy covers the walls of a medieval castle in Spain.

Vivid view
Bright details adorn a temple in China.

Stunning sight
An art installation frames the ancient pyramids in Egypt.

Royal feline
A silver tabby wears a cape and crown at a cat show in the UK.

NY/NJ Gotham FC

DID YOU KNOW?
The NY/NJ Gotham FC team was named Sky Blue FC until 2021.

New coach for USWNT

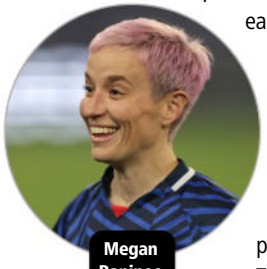
Emma Hayes

Emma Hayes has been named the next head coach of the US Women's National Soccer Team. She is the coach of Chelsea FC in England and will join the US team next year. She is expected to be the world's highest paid women's soccer coach.

Gotham are NWSL champions

On November 11, the 2023 NWSL (National Women's Soccer League) championship game was played at Snapdragon Stadium in San Diego, California. It featured the NY/NJ Gotham FC and the OL Reign, two teams that had never captured an NWSL title. Gotham won, 2–1, capping off a major turnaround for the team, which had ended the 2022 season in last place.

Gotham and the Reign made it to the championship match after upsets in the semifinals. Gotham, who were seeded (ranked) sixth in the postseason, beat the number two team, the Portland Thorns, while the Reign, who were seeded fourth, knocked out the top-seeded San Diego Wave.


Megan Rapinoe

The final was the last game for retiring stars Ali Krieger of Gotham and Megan Rapinoe of the Reign. Both players had won two World Cups as part of the US Women's National Team, and each of them was looking to add an NWSL championship to that. The match, however, got off to a disappointing start for Rapinoe, who suffered an injury in the sixth minute and left the game. "You don't always get to have the perfect ending," she said later.

The first goal was scored by Lynn Williams of Gotham, who was a three-time NWSL champion when she joined the team this year. In the 24th minute, she buried a shot into the center of the goal after receiving a pass from teammate Midge Purce. The Reign answered back after Bethany Balcer, who had replaced Rapinoe, made a great pass to Rose Lavelle as she was streaking toward the goal. Lavelle calmly struck the ball into the bottom right corner to even the score, 1–1. Just before halftime, Gotham took the lead on a goal by Esther González with an assist by Purce.

The Reign had multiple scoring chances in the second half but were unable to find the equalizing goal. They had one last opportunity near the end of the match after Gotham goalkeeper Mandy Haught touched the ball with her hand while it was outside the penalty box. The Reign were given a shot from just outside the box, but it was blocked.

After the match, Purce was named the Most Valuable Player. Williams, meanwhile, is now the only NWSL player to have won four titles.

THIS WEEK'S WINNERS...

INTERNATIONAL ICE HOCKEY

The US women's team beat Canada in the first two games of their 2023–2024 Rivalry Series. The score was 3–1 on November 8 and 5–2 on November 11. Sports history was made in Game 2, when forward Laila Edwards became the first Black woman to play for the US at the senior level. The 19-year-old is currently a sophomore and hockey player at the University of Wisconsin.

Mikaela Shiffrin

SKIING

In Finland, US star Mikaela Shiffrin won her 89th Alpine Ski World Cup race on November 12. Part of her prize was a reindeer she gets to name.

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Houston Texans rookie quarterback CJ Stroud threw for 356 yards in a 30–27 win over the Cincinnati Bengals on November 12. He threw for 470 yards the previous week. He is the second NFL rookie to ever throw for more than 800 yards in two games.

Michigan State vs. James Madison on November 6

WOW! On November 12, basketball star Caitlin Clark became the University of Iowa's all-time career scoring leader.

College hoops season begins

The 2023–2024 NCAA (National College Athletic Association) basketball season began on November 6. Among the women, the defending champions, Louisiana State University (LSU), were ranked number one, while the University of Kansas held the top spot for the men.

Opening night for the women featured a stunning upset as 20th-ranked University of Colorado beat LSU, 92–78. Frida Formann and Aaronette Vonleh of Colorado combined to score 51 points. The men had their own shock that day as fourth-ranked Michigan State University lost at home to unranked James Madison University, 79–76. Michigan State players made only one of the 20 three-pointers they attempted.

In another game that day, sixth-ranked University of South Carolina played 10th-ranked University of Notre Dame in Paris, France, where women's NCAA teams had never played before. South Carolina made more than 50% of their shots and came away with a 100–71 win.

One of the most exciting women's games took place on November 8, with third-ranked University of Iowa holding off eighth-ranked Virginia Tech, 80–76. Iowa's Caitlin Clark, who is considered by many to be the best college player, scored 44 points in the win.

The biggest men's game of the season so far took place two days later. It featured the 12th-ranked University of Arizona visiting Duke University, the number two team in the country. Despite 25 points from Duke's Kyle Filipowski, Arizona held on to win, 78–73. All of Arizona's starters scored in the double digits.

COACH OF THE WEEK

Coach's name: **Zoe Sayetta**

Team: **The Cliffs at Gowanus (rock climbing)**

"Coach Zoe is the best! She always inspires us and helps us achieve our goals. At every practice she has something fun for us. She is encouraging at competitions and always pushes us to the max. She has taught us that climbing doesn't just require strength but also thinking outside the box. Zoe is more than a coach to our team. She is a role model, a mentor, and a person that everybody needs in their life." Eva and Violet, 10, and Miles, 11, New York

To nominate a Coach of the Week, send your coach's name, photo, sport, and team to *hello@theweekjunior.com.* Include your name, age, state, and a few reasons why your coach is great.

SPOTLIGHT ON...

Abdelrahman El-Araby

AGE: 23 SPORT: SWIMMING
TEAM: UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

Diving in I was diagnosed with attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) when I was 4. It means you have a lot of energy and you cannot just sit still. The doctor's advice was for me to do some sort of activity to wear me down, so swimming it was. I didn't really enjoy it until I was about 11 and I could be on a team with people who could be my friends.

Big move I came to the US from Egypt in 2017 for Junior World Championships. I liked the swimming culture here. It's a sport people watch—everyone knows who Michael Phelps is.

Race prep I'm a sprinter. When I'm in the pool, I'm swimming fast, short stuff. When I'm not in the pool, I'm lifting weights at specific speeds. I spend a good 10 to 20 hours a week working out.

Mental tactics I'm in graduate school now. In college, I used to do a lot of journaling. I'd write down three things I'm good at or something I want to be good at, or three minor goals for the day and three things I'm looking forward to tomorrow.

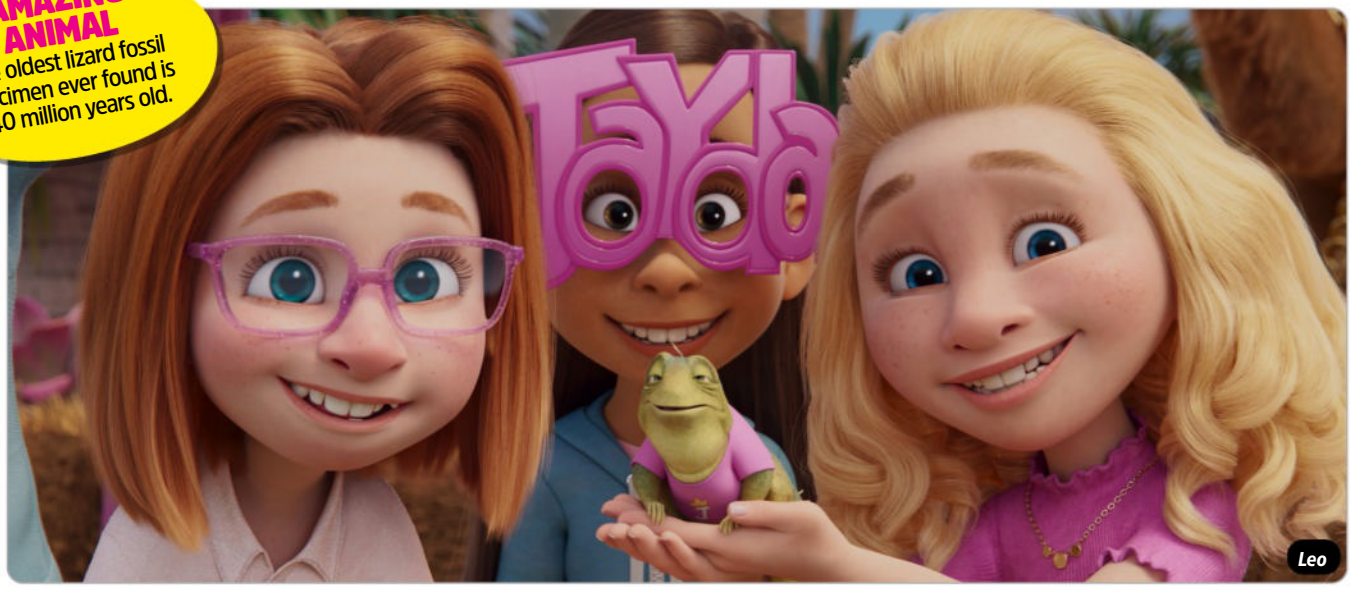
Major wins I'm an African record holder and champion and a Junior Olympics medalist. I used to swim for the University of Louisville, and a special medal will always be the gold I won at the conference championship last season.

Smooth moves My favorite thing about swimming is how some people are so good at it that it just seems like art.

Top goals Being happy, enjoying the sport, and being better every day.

LOUISVILLE ATHLETICS (2); GETTY IMAGES: ON LEFT PAGE: GETTY IMAGES (4)

AMAZING ANIMAL
The oldest lizard fossil specimen ever found is 240 million years old.



Life lessons from a lizard

In the new animated musical comedy *Leo*, a group of fifth graders gets advice from their wise class pet.

On November 21, the new animated musical comedy *Leo* will premiere on Netflix. It is about a 74-year-old lizard who wants to escape the fifth-grade classroom where he lives. When he starts spending time in students' homes, he ends up giving them advice based on what he's learned about kids over the years.

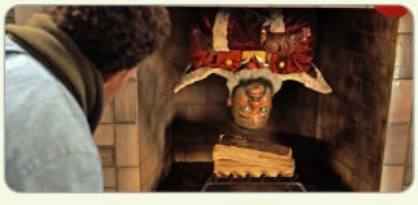
Leo is voiced by actor and comedian Adam Sandler, who also co-wrote and produced the film. The idea to make the movie started after he tried to watch a movie about high school with his kids and realized it wasn't age-appropriate. "He wanted to make a movie about kids in school *for kids*," one of the film's directors, David Wachtenheim, told *The Week Junior*.

Adam Sandler

When the school year starts, Leo and the class turtle, Squirtle, think they know what the students are all about, but Leo learns they're "real people with real problems," Wachtenheim said. Sandler's daughters, who recently starred in *You Are So Not Invited to My Bat Mitzvah*, voice two characters. Sadie plays Jayda, who tries hard to appear great, and Sunny plays Summer, who is talkative and struggles socially. Other kids include Mia, who hides her intelligence at home, and Eli, who has an overprotective mother.

One goal for the filmmakers was to make the students seem like kids that viewers might know in their own lives. The team also wanted to make a film that was emotionally relatable. "We tried to put feelings into it so people of all ages could say, 'I remember that' or 'I'm going through that,'" director Robert Marianetti told *The Week Junior*. Wachtenheim said the story has an important message, too. "The big takeaway is that people—especially kids—should not be afraid to open up about their fears, problems, and issues," he said.

3 new holiday movies



Dashing Through the Snow

This Disney+ comedy, which is out now, is about a social worker who doesn't like Christmas. On Christmas Eve, he meets a man named Nicholas Sinterklaas who ends up taking him and his 9-year-old daughter on an adventure.

The Naughty Nine

A group of kids plan a heist at the North Pole after they realize they didn't get any Christmas presents. This Disney original movie premieres on the Disney Channel on November 22 and will begin streaming on Disney+ the next day.

Candy Cane Lane

When a man goes to a special store to buy items to help him win a house decorating competition, he unknowingly makes a deal with a mischievous elf. Comedy legend Eddie Murphy stars in the film, which arrives on Prime Video on November 30.

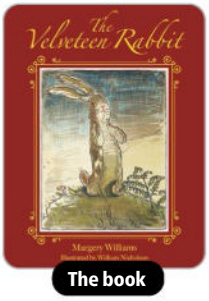
DID YOU KNOW?
A species of rabbit called the Velveteen Lop can have ears that are more than a foot long.

The Velveteen Rabbit

The Velveteen Rabbit comes to TV

One of the most famous children's stories of all time is coming to life in a new live-action animated hybrid special. *The Velveteen Rabbit*, based on the classic book by Margery Williams, arrives on Apple TV+ on November 22.

The Velveteen Rabbit was first published more than 100 years ago, in 1922. In the tale, a stuffed animal talks to other toys in a playroom about his desire to be real. It also follows his life as an unnamed boy's favorite toy. The main themes of the story are self-sacrifice, friendship, and love.



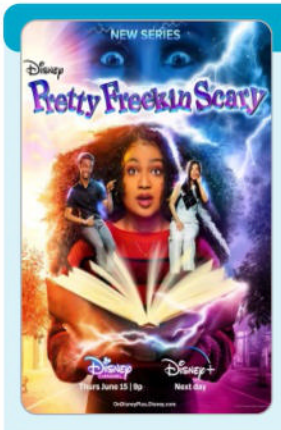
The book

In the special, some details of the story have been changed. The boy is now named William, and the story is told from his perspective as well as the rabbit's. "William is really shy and struggling to make friends," Tom Bidwell, who wrote the screenplay for the special, told *The Week Junior*. "The rabbit is new to this playroom and he's having the same challenges." As time passes, William and the rabbit play together and their relationship grows. Bidwell called the special "a celebration of imagination and the value of imagination."

The special has fully animated scenes to illustrate some of William's imaginative play, but much of the story is set in a live-action world. Producer Martin Pope told *The Week Junior* that it took three months to design the stuffed rabbit for those scenes. Attention was given to its spots, the fabric on its body and ears, and its stuffing. There were four prop rabbits, each with a different amount of wear.

Martin said that by the end of the story, love gives both the rabbit and William the freedom to explore the world. He hopes the special inspires real kids to think, "Let's go out and make the world better."

READER RECOMMENDS



Pretty Freekin Scary *(Disney+, Disney Now, and other platforms)*
"This show is hilarious and so good. It is about a girl named Frankie who dies and comes back to life. She must complete tasks while maintaining her two new best friends, Pretty and Scary. They face a lot of trial and error. What I really like about this show is that it really shows what friendship is and puts it in a way kids and families can understand. One of my favorite characters is Erlic. He is funny, smart, and sarcastic. My other favorite character is Frankie. She is funny, kind, and smart. I liked episode seven, when they put on a hilarious show." Ariel, 12, Indiana

Do you have a film or TV show to recommend to other kids? Send your review to *hello@theweekjunior.com*.

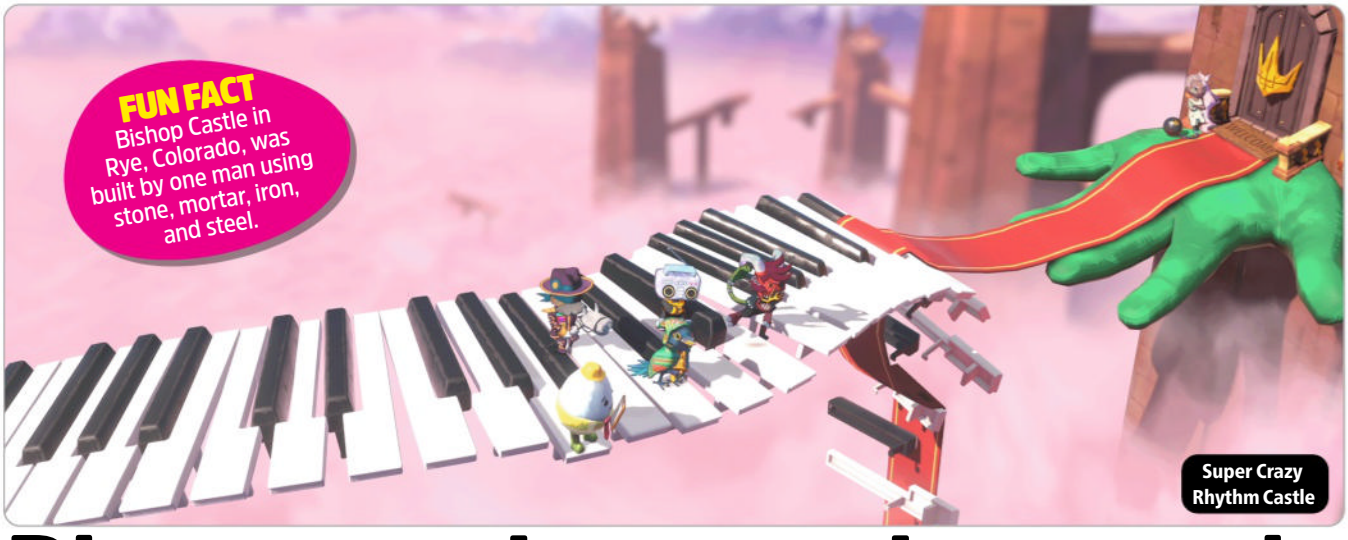
THIS WEEK'S WATCH LIST

Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade
(NBC) November 23 at 8:30 am ET
The world's largest parade will be traveling through New York City for the 97th time. Watch it on TV to spot balloons and floats with popular characters such as Greg from *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* (above), Monkey D. Luffy from *One Piece*, and the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles.

Groundbreakers
(PBS) November 21 at 8 pm ET
This new documentary celebrates 50 years of female excellence in sports. It features eight groundbreaking athletes, including tennis icon and activist Billie Jean King (above right), flag football player Diana Flores (above left), gymnast Suni Lee, and snowboarder Chloe Kim.

Incredible Animal Journeys
(Disney+) (Hulu)
Travel alongside birds in Alaska, zebras in Africa, polar bears in the Arctic, and other animals as they migrate across various parts of the world in this new documentary series. Viewers will get an up-close look at how different creatures navigate and survive their long journeys.

APPLE TV+: MARGERY WILLIAMS/WILLIAM NICHOLSON; DISNEY: EUGENE GOLOGURSKY/GETTY IMAGES FOR MACY'S, INC.; CODY RAPPAPORT/SIX WEST MEDIA; NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC FOR DISNEY/MAIA SHERWOOD-ROGERS; ON LEFT PAGE: COURTESY OF NETFLIX; GETTY IMAGES; DISNEY; DISNEY/JONATHAN WENK; CLAUDETTE BARIUS/AMAZON CONTENT SERVICES LLC



Super Crazy Rhythm Castle

Play a music game in a castle

Super Crazy Rhythm Castle is a new puzzle-adventure game. It is out now for the Nintendo Switch, PlayStation platforms, Xbox systems, and PC.

The game takes place in a colorful, musical kingdom that is ruled by the mad King Ferdinand. There are four playable characters: B. Box, who has a boombox (portable stereo) for a head; devil-like Trinity; Mike, who has a style like pop star Michael Jackson; and a bird named Jingle. Gamers can either play solo or co-op with three other friends.

The goal for players is to make it across the musical world, arrive at King Ferdinand's castle, and take him on in an epic rhythm competition. Reaching Ferdinand is a major challenge on its own because his castle is filled with many floors loaded with rooms of wild, fun mini-games. They require good timing, creativity, and the ability to multitask.

In Super Crazy Rhythm Castle, there are more than 30 original music tracks from genres such as rock and hip-hop. In one type of game, you have to tap or hold buttons to the beat of a song. The music never stops, which adds to the chaos, as do surprise twists that pop up during the action.

In mini-games, players are asked to mash their buttons in tune with flying neon rhythm discs while also completing tasks. At different points, you may be grabbing cans of beans, throwing broccoli, or running around with a puppy to catch falling treasure. The musical arcade and escape room are two of the more exciting and tricky levels and require real puzzle-solving ability.

Taking on King Ferdinand is tough, but the game has a casual mode that is less complicated. Instead, you can just focus on playing without worrying about getting through the castle.

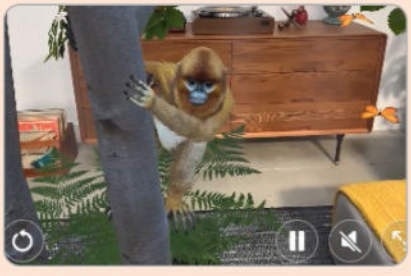
PODCAST OF THE WEEK

THE PLATE SHOW

Apple Podcasts, Spotify

Talking utensils Spoonie and Tongs host this funny new show that explores cultures around the world through food. The series serves up interviews with famous chefs, recipes, games, and jokes. The first two shows were about Caribbean food and how pumpkin is used in Japan and Mexico.

APP OF THE WEEK



WWF FORESTS

Apple App Store, Google Play

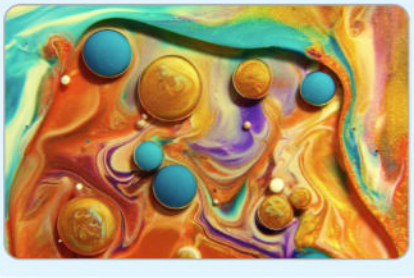
This immersive app allows you to bring forests into your home using augmented reality. Through the camera screen of a phone or tablet, you'll be able to see a 3D image with trees and wildlife projected over any space. As you take a guided tour, the animals will react to you as you walk around.

WEBSITE OF THE WEEK

COLORFUL LIQUIDS IN MOTION

tinyurl.com/TWJUS-Liquids

French video artist Thomas Blanchard made this slow-motion video that captures movements created by paint when it is mixed with soap and oil. Watch patterns emerge as the shiny, colorful circles swirl. The action is set to "Nocturne Op. 9 No. 2," a famous composition by Frederic Chopin.



KONAMI (2); THIRTEEN PRODUCTIONS LLC; WORLD WILDLIFE FUND; THOMAS BLANCHARD/OILHACK

BOOK OF THE WEEK

The Secret of the Ravens

By Joanna Cacao

(Clarion Books)

Twins Elliot and Liza search through trash in Kawumiti Kingdom looking for items to sell so they can buy food. Since their parents died, they don't have a place to live or a way to support themselves. One day, they see a boy from their village trap a raven that has a "magic mark" on its body. The boy tells the twins that ravens with this mark will give them a quest and, if it's completed, pay them in coins. After learning magic spells, the twins complete a few quests. They follow the ravens to the kingdom's capital where they discover the quests are not what they seem, and Liza gets poisoned. Elliot and a friend take Liza to a mage (magician) who may be able to cure her. The mage is able to slow down the poison for a month but claims she won't be able to stop it until Elliot brings her three ingredients that are dangerous and practically impossible to find. Will Elliot be able to locate the items in time? And even if he does, will the mage hold up her end of the bargain? This suspenseful graphic novel contains its own glossary of magic spells and ends on a cliff-hanger.

ASK THE AUTHOR

Joanna Cacao

We spoke to the author of the Book of the Week.

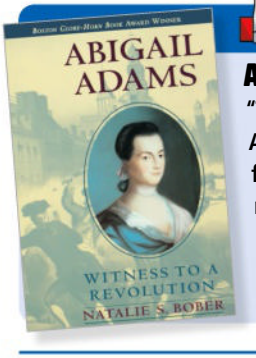
Why did you want to write a graphic novel?
I love drawing and trying to illustrate how characters interact with one another.

Did you grow up with siblings?
Yes, three sisters. We would argue, but we still loved one another. So it was easy for me to create realistic siblings in this book.

What do you enjoy doing in your free time?
I love making felt toys. I make some in the shape of food, and then I let my dog play with them.

What do you hope readers take away from this book?
I would love for kids to be confident in themselves and who they are. I'd also like them to believe they can accomplish anything they want.

Pumpkin or apple pie?
Apple pie with maple ice cream on top.



READER RECOMMENDS

Abigail Adams: Witness to a Revolution *By Natalie S. Bober*

"This nonfiction book is about Abigail Adams and her life during the American Revolution (1775–1783). She saw the Battle of Bunker Hill from near her home, and soldiers marched past her door. She wrote many letters about her experiences, and she strongly supported women's rights and their education. Her husband, John Adams, later became the second US president." Natalia, 13, California

Do you have a book to recommend? Send your review to *hello@theweekjunior.com*.

4 books adapted for young readers

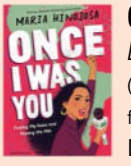
First published for adults, these picks are enlightening and inspiring to read.

The Monster's Bones

By David K. Randall

(Norton Young Readers)

Barnum Brown (1873–1963) uncovered the first T. Rex fossil, and this book focuses on his discovery, his life as a "fossil hunter," and the competition among museums to display dinosaur bones. The adult book was published in 2022, and this version contains interesting photos. *Ages 10 and up*



Once I Was You

By Maria Hinojosa

(Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers)

Maria Hinojosa, an award-winning journalist, tells her life story in this memoir that was adapted from a book she wrote for adults in 2020. It begins with her joyful childhood in Mexico and the problems she and her family experienced immigrating to Chicago. *Ages 10–14*

Spare Parts

By Joshua Davis and Reyna Grande

(Farrar, Straus and Giroux)

In 2004, four high schoolers, who were undocumented immigrants from Mexico, won a robotics competition against students from top colleges. This book, which was adapted from a book published for adults in 2014, highlights how the students met and overcame the odds to win. *Ages 10–14*

What It's Like to Be a Bird

By David Allen Sibley

(Delacorte Press)

Did you know that birds rehearse their songs before sharing them with other birds? That's one of the many facts you'll discover in this book that was first published for adults in 2020. Besides common birds, like parrots, the book explores lesser-known species, such as titmice. *Ages 8 and up*

BOOKS: COURTESY THE PUBLISHERS; AUTHOR: COURTESY OF JOANNA CACAO; GETTY IMAGES

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In **Give As We Grow** you will play fun minigames, explore virtual locations and causes, and earn heart points and rewards to transform your game world for the better.

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Want to spark a meaningful mealtime conversation this holiday season?

Here are some conversation starters from our partner the **National Center for Family Philanthropy**:

- Funniest moment of the year
- Proudest moment of the year
- What is a cause or issue you care about and why?
- What is a local organization you want to support?
- Set a donation budget. Have each family member research and promote their favorite organization. Vote on the winner.

Get more tips like this in the Give As We Grow Resource Library.

GIVING TUESDAY

On **November 28th**, join people around the world in giving back on GivingTuesday. Whether it's making someone smile, helping a neighbor, donating time or money to a cause, or inspiring others to act, we each have something to contribute.

FOR INFORMATION AND RESOURCES, VISIT GIVEASWEGROW.ORG

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FREE FOR DOWNLOAD!

A first-of-its-kind, educational mobile app for kids ages 8–11 to spark a new movement in generosity!

1 GAME APP
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3 RESOURCE LIBRARY

SCREEN TIME FAMILIES CAN FEEL GOOD ABOUT!

- Grounded in educator-designed curriculum
- Developed using research-backed methods to help kids connect to their emotions and develop relationship skills
- Utilizes best practices in educational game design and the science of learning

Including 15+ cause areas:
animals
arts & culture
education & literacy
water & sanitation
hunger
...and more!

GIVEASWEGROW.ORG GIVEASWEGROW

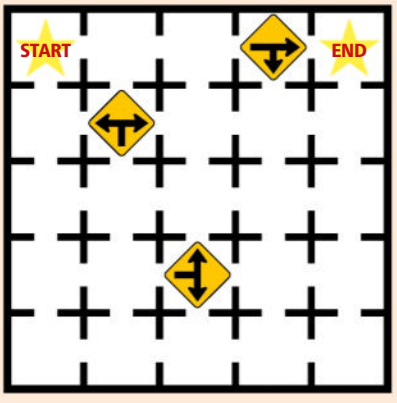
Word ladder

To change the word WISH into the word BONE, use each clue to fill in a word that is only one letter different from the word before it. If you get stuck, try solving from the bottom up.

	W I S H
Accompanied by ▶	
A battle of ___ (competition of intelligence) ▶	
A sports team's victories ▶	
Drink that an adult might hold while making a Thanksgiving toast ▶	
Eat a special meal, with a tablecloth and fancy plates ▶	
Enter the pool gracefully ▶	
Bird that is the symbol of peace ▶	
Having eaten everything on the plate ▶	
	B O N E

DETOURS

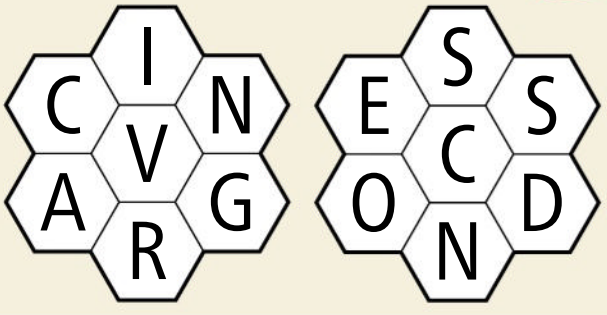
Draw one continuous path from START to END that goes through every single square without crossing itself. For squares with signs, you may only enter at the arrow's base, and you may only make a turn in the direction of an arrow shown. (NEED A HINT? Check the bottom of the page.)



STEPPING STONES

ANSWERS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 29.

Each figure hides a seven-letter word associated with Thanksgiving dinner. To find each one, start anywhere and move in an unbroken path through letters that share a border (no jumping!), using each letter once.



Crossmath

Fill each empty box with a number or a mathematical symbol (+, −, ×, or ÷) to complete the equations across and down. A symbol can be used more than once.

	7			
17		4	=	
	5			×
	=			
		×		= 52
				39

Spot the difference

These two pictures of roosters appear to be the same, but take a closer look. There are actually five differences. Can you see them?

PUZZLES BY PUZZABILITY

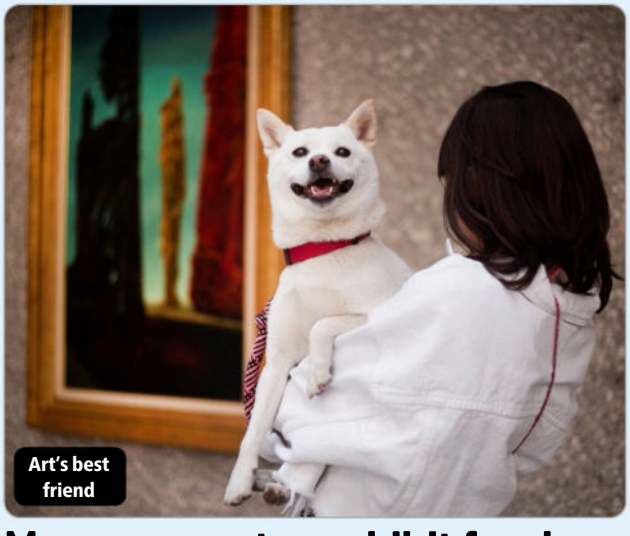
Detours hint: The answer starts by moving three squares across to the topmost sign.

Loud cat purrs to a new record

An especially noisy feline from the UK has won a spot in the Guinness World Records book. Bella let out a purr of 54.6 decibels (a measure of sound), making her the loudest living house cat on the planet. That's similar to the level of noise made by a boiling kettle or the rattle of a washing machine. Bella's owner, Nicole Spink, told Guinness she has to turn up the volume on her TV when the 14-year-old cat is in the room. "She purrs all day long," said Spink. "If there's food around, or cuddles, she always purrs."

Pizza delivery "rocketship" for sale

In Las Vegas, Nevada, a rare vehicle was recently put up for sale. The Tritan A2 Aerocar was built by a Michigan automaker in 1985. Although it looks a little bit like a spaceship, it was actually designed to deliver Domino's pizzas. The car can carry two passengers, one in front of the other, and is fitted with heaters to keep the pizza warm. The previous owner said the car "turns heads" when people see it drive past them on the road. He bought the vehicle in 2021 for about $25,000, and it sold for $32,000 at an auction on November 10.



Museum creates exhibit for dogs

A Mexican museum has designed a new art exhibit specifically to be enjoyed by dogs. Officials at the Museo Tamayo in Mexico City worked doggedly to make the #ArteyPerros ("Art and Dogs") exhibition a unique emotional experience for both human and canine visitors. The works on display, which were carefully selected from the museum's collection, celebrate the bond between people and their furry companions. "The affectionate relationship that exists between an owner and their dog is always there," a museum curator said, "and even more so now" that the exhibition is open.

A thief who acted like a dummy

A man in Poland pretended to be a mannequin (a plastic model used to display clothes) in order to steal from a shopping center. According to police, the crafty burglar stood still next to some mannequins in a store window in Warsaw, Poland's capital, in an attempt to hide before committing his crimes. Shoppers and staff members didn't notice him as the mall closed for the evening. Once everyone had left, the man emerged from the window and stole jewelry from the store. Is this story true, or should it be discounted?*

*Real! The thief's trick was captured on surveillance cameras. Eventually security guards spotted him and called the police, who arrested him.

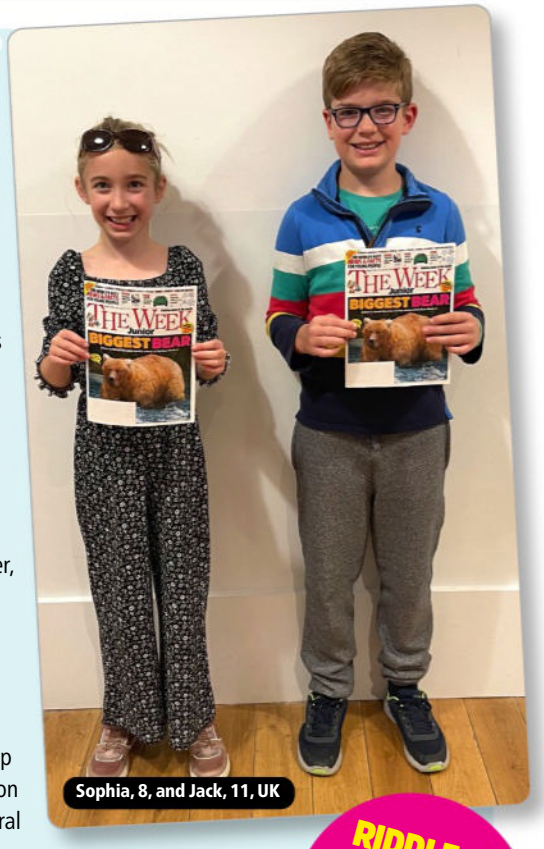
PA, SHUTTERSTOCK; COURTESY OF MECUM AUCTIONS, INC.; REUTERS; GETTY IMAGES; ON LEFT PAGE: GETTY IMAGES (4)

Editor's note

This year, on November 22, our nation will mark the 60th anniversary of the day our 35th President, John F. Kennedy, was killed during his third year in office (p12). He was assassinated, which means he was killed suddenly for political purposes. This type of crime is rare, which is why it has such a tremendous and lasting impact when it happens. His death was shocking and sad for the US and the world, and many people still talk about where they were and how they felt when they heard the news. If you ask your grandparents or other adults about it, they may be able to share their memories with you. It can be very powerful to hear directly from someone who lived through a significant moment in history. Numerous events will be taking place around the country to mark the anniversary. Something may be happening in your community or school, and you can also find out more about Kennedy's life and Presidency at jfklibrary.org.

Andrea Barbalich
Editor-in-Chief

Visiting *The Week Junior*



Sophia, 8, and Jack, 11, UK

"We have been subscribing to the UK edition of *The Week Junior* for two years. We love keeping up to date with news stories, as well as regular features, such as the Big Debate, photos from around the world, and the quiz. We even brought our latest UK edition to New York City with us to read. While we were in a coffee shop, we began chatting with someone who works at the US edition of *The Week Junior*. It was Paul Kramer, the production director, and he invited us to visit the magazine's office, which was across the street. It was such an exciting surprise on top of all the cool stuff we got to do in New York, like visiting the Statue of Liberty, enjoying the awe-inspiring views from the top of the Empire State Building, seeing *Aladdin* on Broadway, and enjoying scenic walks in Central Park. We can't wait for our next trip!"

Have you done something interesting or raised money for a cause you care about? Whatever you're up to, we want to hear about it at *hello@theweekjunior.com*.

RIDDLE OF THE WEEK
What's easy to lift but hard to throw?
A feather

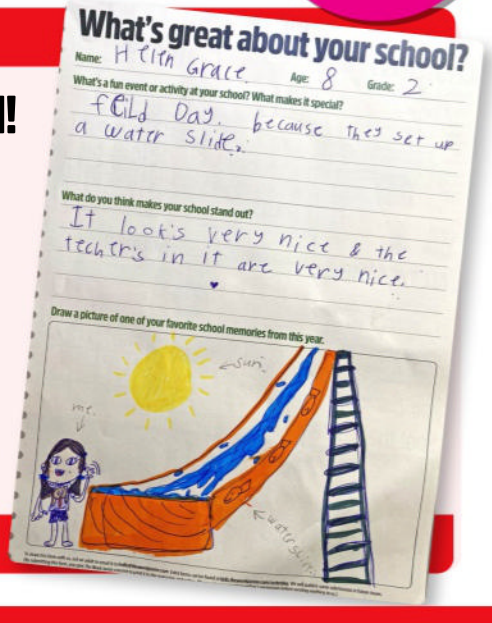
CHARITY OF THE WEEK

Move for Hunger

This organization helps fight food waste. It focuses on the food that is wasted when people move into a new home and works to get that food to people in need. For Thanksgiving, it is helping communities organize holiday-themed food drives. Since its founding in 2009, it has delivered more than 37 million pounds of food across the US and Canada. Find out more at moveforhunger.org.

Tell us about your school!

Helen Grace, who is 8 years old and in second grade, told us she believes her school is special because there is a water slide on field day. Her school's teachers are also very nice. If you want to share what's great about your school, go to kids.theweekjunior.com/activities to print out a form. Fill it out, then have an adult email it to us at *hello@theweekjunior.com*. We'll feature some of the submissions we receive on this page in future issues.


What's great about your school?
Name: Helen Grace
Age: 8
Grade: 2
What's a fun event or activity at your school? What makes it special?
Field Day, because they set up a water slide.
What do you think makes your school stand out?
It look's very nice & the techr's in it are very nice.
Draw a picture of one of your favorite school memories from this year.
sun
me
water slide

THE WEEK Junior IT'S YOUR TURN Email your news, views, and photos to *hello@theweekjunior.com*.

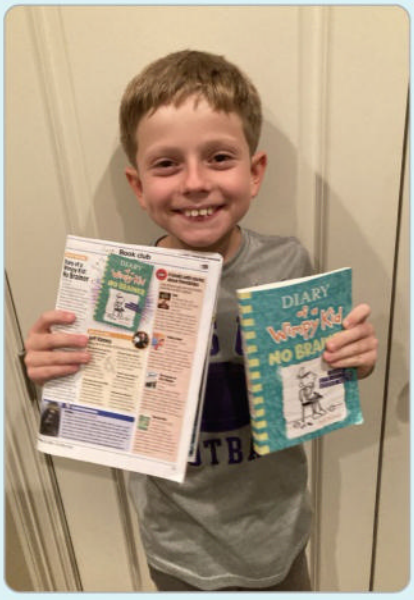
Your turn

YOUR PHOTOS

We'd love to see pictures you've taken or pictures with you in them! Have an adult email them to us at *hello@theweekjunior.com*, along with anything you would like us to know about what's happening in the photo.

"I made animal bookmarks for my family during a sick day. Having a fun activity made me feel better."
Alexandra, 8, Wisconsin

"I made the Green Goddess Pasta Salad and it was delicious! I'll definitely make it again."
Matilda, 10, California



"Last week I was inspired by *The Week Junior* to read *No Brainer*. It was a great recommendation!"
Charles, 9, Louisiana

Teacher OF THE WEEK

Teacher's Name: **Mrs. Sally Henderson**

School: **Matoaka Elementary School**

"I'm nominating my art teacher, Mrs. Henderson, because she pushes me and my fifth grade class to be the best artists we can be. We learned still art and did art projects using clay, and it all came out beautifully. She advises us on our drawing skills and gives us the art tools we need, like colored pencils, markers, and crayons. I look forward to art every week!"

Henry, 10, Virginia

Nominate your teacher for Teacher of the Week!
Send your reason for the nomination, a photo of your teacher, and your school's name and address to *hello@theweekjunior.com*.

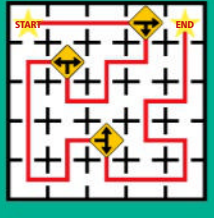
GETTY IMAGES; ON LEFT PAGE: COURTESY MOVE FOR HUNGER

Puzzle answers (from page 26)

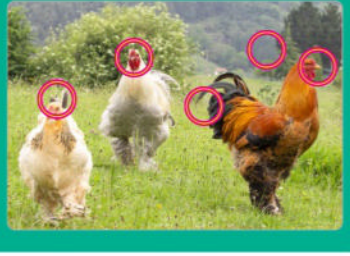
Word ladder

wish
with
wits
wins
wine
dine
dive
dove
done
bone

Stepping stones
carving, seconds



		7		
17	−	4	=	13
5				×
=				3
2	×	26	=	52
		39		



Quiz answers (from page 30)
1 b) Great Dane **2** c) Midge Purce **3** True **4** Adam Sandler **5** c) 35 **6** False. They have had foam packaging. **7** a) *The Velveteen Rabbit* **8** Washington, DC **9** c) Museo Tamayo **10** True **11** a) Sahure **12** Kawumiti Kingdom **13** True **14** Piano **15** b) Ferdinand

We want to hear from you! To have your letters, photos, nominations, recommendations, or ideas considered for inclusion in the magazine, please include your full name, age, and state with your submission. By emailing your submission to us, you give *The Week Junior* consent to publish it in the magazine and online. Please get your parent/guardian's permission before sending anything to us.

How much of this week's news can you remember?

1 What breed is Maverick, the winner of the American Humane Hero Dog Award?

a) Beagle b) Great Dane c) Goldendoodle

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

2 Who was named the Most Valuable Player of the National Women's Soccer League championship?

a) Ali Krieger b) Lynn Williams c) Midge Purce

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

3 True or false? Roosters appear able to recognize their reflections in the mirror.

True ☐ False ☐

4 What comedian provides the voice of Leo the lizard in the new movie *Leo*?

5 Tracy Chapman won a Country Music Association award for a song that came out how many years ago?

a) 15 b) 25 c) 35

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

6 True or false? Cup Noodles have had paper packaging since 1973.

True ☐ False ☐

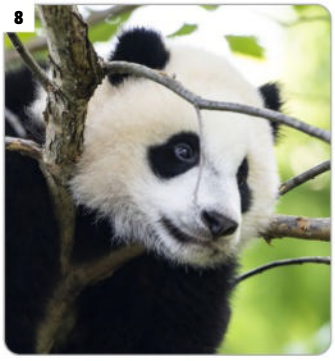
7 A new TV special is based on which classic children's book?

a) *The Velveteen Rabbit* b) *Charlotte's Web*

c) *Winnie the Pooh*

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

8 Three giant pandas have relocated to China from what US city?



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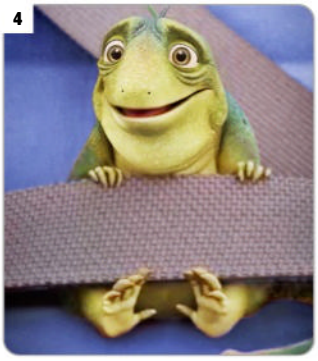

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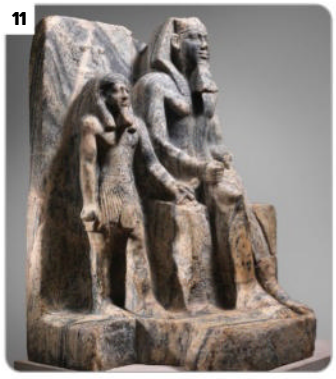
13

ANSWERS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 29.



11

1

9 An art exhibit for dogs has gone on display at which Mexico City museum?

a) Museo Jumex

b) Museo Soumaya

c) Museo Tamayo

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

10 True or false? The recent strike by SAG-AFTRA, the union representing movie and television actors, was the longest in Hollywood history.

True ☐ False ☐

11 The technique LiDAR was recently used to identify hidden rooms in a pyramid honoring which pharaoh?

a) Sahure b) Seti I c) Sneferu

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

12 In the book *The Secret of the Ravens*, where do twins Elliot and Liza live?

13 True or false? John F. Kennedy was the youngest person elected US President.

True ☐ False ☐

14 Jahari Stampley, who won a prestigious jazz competition, plays which musical instrument?

15 What is the name of the mad king featured in the video game Super Crazy Rhythm Castle?

a) Fenwick b) Ferdinand c) Francis

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

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